same criminal propensity has been disclosed to the annoyance of citizens through petty thievery.

Credulity and superstition are also important factors in criminology in the Philippines. *Colorums* (the mass-conducting priest would hardly recognize the *Secula Seculorum* of the Latin prayers, in this vulgar derivative) are fantastic near-religious sects which have sprung up here and there over the country. Impostors have headed these fanatical movements and have satisfied their greed and lust at the expense of ignorant followers. The *barrio* people have been easy victims of these fake prophets.

The Spaniards gave the Islands a Penal Code which even for its time was antiquated and which Spain has discarded in favor of more modern legislation. The code made of the law an arithmetical process. Given a certain qualifying circumstance, the crime was determined. Given so many aggravating circumstances, the penalty was increased. Given so many mitigating circumstances, the penalty was decreased. The judge had no discretion. The penalty for the higher crimes was denominated *cadena* (chains), as *cadena fer^etua* (perpetual chains). Little by little the Spanish Penal Code has given way to more humane measures, such as a Revised Penal Code, an indeterminate sentence law, and a probationary system.

The Spanish penal system was as defective as its penal laws. The American forces liberated countless Filipino prisoners incarcerated for unknown crimes or still awaiting trials after years of delay. Dark dungeons were used and they are

still to be found in the walls of Manila and in Bilibid, as I discovered when once I conducted an investigation of that prison.

The present penal system is far ahead of the one which it succeeded, as tested by the generally accepted principles of penology and as testified to by well-qualified prison experts. The system includes Bilibid Prison in Manila5 the San Ramon